

## THE WIDE AWAKE CIRCLE

## BOYS' AND GIRLS' DEPARTMENT

Rules for One Side.  
1. Write mainly on your side of the paper, only, and number the pages.  
2. Use pen and ink, not pencil.  
3. Short and pointed articles will be given preference. Do not use over 250 words.  
4. Original stories or letters only will be used.  
5. Write your name, age and address at the bottom of the story.  
Address all communications to Uncle Jed, Bulletin Office.

"Whatever you are—Be that!  
Whatever you say—Be true!  
Straightforwardly act,  
Be honest in fact,  
Be nobody else but you."

## POETRY.

## Little Oh-Deer!

See, what a wonderful garden is here,  
Planted and trimmed for my Little-  
Oh-Deer!  
Posies so gaudy and grass of such  
brown—  
Search ye the country and hunt ye  
the town  
And never ye'll meet with a garden  
so queer  
As this one I've made for my Little-  
Oh-Deer!

Marigolds dabbled with buttercups blue,  
Lilies all white with honey and dew,  
The cactus that trails over trellis and  
wall,  
Roses and pansies and violets—all  
Make proper obedience and reverent  
cheer  
When into her garden steps Little-  
Oh-Deer!

And up at the top of that lavender  
tree  
A silver bird singeth as only can she:  
For ever and only, she singeth the  
song  
"I love you—I love you," the happy  
day long;  
Then the echo—the echo, that smiteth  
me here  
I love you, I love you, my Little-  
Oh-Deer!

The garden may wither, the silver  
bird fly—  
But what careth my little precious,  
or I?  
From her pathway of flowers that in  
springtime uprise  
She walketh the tendered way in my  
heart  
And, oh, it is always the summer  
time here  
With that song of "I love you," my  
Little-Oh-Deer!

—Eugene Field.

## UNCLE JED'S TALK TO WIDE-AWAKES.

Beware of the thought "I've nothing to do!" for that is the seed thought for the habit of idleness.

There is always something to do in this world and we are all so extravagant in the waste of time.

While we have nothing to do we might add to memory a new word, bring in a pair of water, or a little wood for the fire, or we might apply the elements to some useful purpose for ourselves.

Uncle Jed once heard of a man who used the moments of the noon hour which most idle away, in a din two years he had learned two languages besides his own, and in three years had doubled his earnings because of his knowledge.

Uncle Jed has known two men who learned German when other men think they are too old to learn. One was a doctor past 60 who studied German and translated into English one of the ablest medical works from

the long ago, and the other at 72 began the study of German and acquired the ability to translate from that language.

Do you know people who have something to do that can never get their work completed and I have no doubt many of them die without ever having completed the work they had planned.

It is not a bad habit to have a great deal more work planned than you can possibly do. There are many things workers have to do and some they do not enjoy. It is really rest to be doing the things they love to do whenever they have an opportunity.

The worker whether he works the soil, or work in woods or metals is getting something money cannot buy. Experience and skill have to be earned because they cannot be bought.

If you are simply looking for beautiful contrasts or for ideas among men you are not idling but gathering knowledge. The use of the eyes and ears as well as the hands indicates you are doing something.

People who have nothing to do in this world are short-sighted and enervated; and those who want nothing to do are ignorant of the fact that action prolongs life and idleness promotes decay.

There is so much to do in life and so much to enjoy that there is no reason why any one should have time hanging heavily on their hands.

You often hear the poor, weak invalid say: "If I could only wait upon myself I should not be such a care." They yearn for health and activity. No one of sense enjoys idleness. Our ability and joy in life are really increased by work. "There's nothing to do." There is a lack of doing. If more of the right kind of work was done life would be more comfortable and better for all of us.

## WINNERS OF PRIZE BOOKS.

1. Helen Wisneskie, of Yantic—The Automobile Girls in the Berkshires.

2. Nancy Tetrault, of Versailles—Grace Harlowe's Pledge Year at High School.

3. Agnes White, of Stafford Springs—A Happy Discipline.

4. Anna M. Marshall, of Norwich—Miss Charity's House.

5. Lucy A. Carter, of Hampton—The Motor Club of Nantucket.

6. Myron Ringland, of Norwich Town—Fussbudget's Folks.

7. Mildred Spicer, of Bristol—The Benhurst Club.

Winners of books living in the city may call at the Bulletin business office for them at any hour after 10 a. m. on Thursday.

## LETTERS OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Mary McDonnell, of Versailles—I received the prize book, The Automobile Girls in the Berkshires. I thank you for it. I have read it. I think it is very interesting.

Ada Marriott, of Oneco—I thank you very much for the book I received quite a while ago. The name was "The Children of Jericho" who were being so busy I haven't had time to write before. I have been wanting some of those books for a long time. I am going to write another letter soon.

Frank Parry, of Norwich—I thank you very much for the nice prize book you gave me.

Marion Royce, of Norwich—Thank you very much for the nice prize book you sent me. I have read it through and find it very interesting.

Veronica F. V. Tucker, of Versailles—I received the prize book, The Automobile Girls in the Berkshires. I thank you for it. I have read it. I think it is very interesting.

Anna Rabiwitz, of Norwich—I received the prize book, The Automobile Girls in the Berkshires. I thank you for it. I have read it. I think it is very interesting.

Lucy Wins Prize. Uncle Jed and the Wide-Awakes: As school is out and it is vacation time, I will now write again, as it has been quite a while since I wrote to you. In my last letter I wrote and told you I was trying to win the prize on Grace Harlowe's Junior Year at High School. Now I suppose you would all like to know how many I gathered? I will say I won the first prize on them in school. I gathered 7,400, which was the most in school.

There was a boy in school who gathered 4,700. Wasn't it rather funny he should have just enough to have the figures turned around from which I had?

The sum of money which I won was \$2. I thought I had gathered about all that was on our farm, but when they began to hatch out I found I did not get them all by any means.

I hope all the Wide-Awakes will have a good time this vacation. I will say I was one of the Wide-Awakes who had the opportunity to go to the Social Corner picnic at Coventry lake. I had a good time and met some of the Wide-Awake girls there, and we had a jolly time together. It did not take us long to get acquainted.

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